

Electronic Monitoring Subcommittee
of the
Sanford “Sandy” Krasnoff Criminal Justice Council

MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY, April 17, 2018

1:30pm – 3:00pm

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| I. | Welcome and Opening Remarks | Judge Calvin Johnson |
| II. | Report on Ongoing Sentinel Problems | Judge Calvin Johnson |
| III. | Discussion of Juvenile Trafficking Issues | |
| | a. Presentation on Sex Trafficking | Jim Kelly, Director of Covenant House |
| | b. Presentation on Coordinated System of Care | Precious Lowe and Brittany Fried of
NCFS |
| IV. | 1 st Quarter Performance Measures | Subcommittee Members |

Criminal Justice Council Electronic Monitoring Subcommittee Minutes

April 17, 2018

On April 17, the Electronic Monitoring (EM) Subcommittee of the Criminal Justice Council convened at 1:43pm in the 8th floor Homeland Security Conference Room in City Hall. The following persons were present/absent:

Electronic Monitoring Subcommittee Members

Present

Calvin Johnson, Commissioner (Chair) – OCJC
Aaron Clark-Rizzio, Executive Director – LCCR
Susan Guidry, Councilmember – City Council
Ralph Brandt, Assistant District Attorney – DA's Office
Jenerio Sanders, Lt. for Superintendent Michael Harrison – NOPD
Juana Green for Tyrell Morris – OPCD

Absent

Mark Doherty, Judge – OPJC
Germaine Simon, Director – Youth Study Center
Lance Cardwell – Office of Inspector General
William Walker – Community Representative

Office of Criminal Justice Coordination Staff

Present:

Amanda Simpkins
Shelbi Flynn

I. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Commissioner Calvin Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:43pm. Welcoming everyone to the 4th meeting of the EM Subcommittee, the Commissioner called roll and made his opening remarks. Commissioner Johnson noted that Tyrell Morris will be replacing Shinar Hays as the OPCD representative.

II. Report on Ongoing Sentinel Problems

Commissioner Johnson noted that the Subcommittee needs to decide if the ongoing issues with Sentinel merit finding another provider. Amanda Simpkins gave an overview of the problems with the provider to date. There have been 29 defective chargers and nine defective monitors, which is significant given that only 18 people are enrolled. These incidents undercut the credibility of the program because it can be difficult to determine if a violation occurred. Sentinel has also failed to follow the established notification procedures. Despite attempts to resolve these issues, there has been no notable improvement. Commissioner Johnson noted that these issues often lead to NOPD being called unnecessarily. Lt. Sanders pointed to the data presented in the presentation, which demonstrates a significant number of unnecessary calls to NOPD. He agreed that a new provider is needed.

Councilmember Guidry asked if there will be a gap in service if the Subcommittee opts to search for a new provider. Commissioner Johnson responded that Sentinel would continue until a new provider could be identified since the process will take some time.

Councilmember Guidry made a motion to issue an RFP for a new provider. Lt. Sanders seconded the motion. All in favor, no nays, no abstentions. The motion was approved.

Ralph Brandt asked how Sentinel has responded when problems are brought to their attention. Amanda Simpkins responded that, while they are responsive, this has not led to any significant change.

Aaron Clark-Rizzio asked if it is possible to determine how often EM is being used as an alternative to detention rather than an additional condition on an individual who would be released anyway. Amanda Simpkins noted that the Policy and Procedures Manual clarified these issues as much as possible.

III. Discussion of Juvenile Trafficking Issues

a. Presentation on Sex Trafficking

Jim Kelly and Sheri Lockridge from Covenant House gave a presentation on their work with sex trafficking victims. Covenant house is the most experienced provider in New Orleans and has provided care to 166 trafficking victims.

Jim Kelly noted the importance of viewing the individuals who have been trafficked as victims, not criminals. The most appropriate and effective approach in this context is trauma-informed care. For the under 18 population, there's no one approach that will be effective for everyone. While group homes may be appropriate for some individuals, they cannot meet the needs of others. Group homes in other parts of the state are not at capacity. Another model of interest, which is currently used in Connecticut, is an enhanced foster care system that gives enhanced training to parents who can specialize in caring for trafficking victims

Sheri Lockridge spoke about her experience in the foster care system. She often ran away from her homes, but several unique aspects of Covenant House made her comfortable enough to stay, such as individualized care and no fear of having to move.

Jim Kelly expressed that while some instances may require secure detention, these cases should be rare and minimal. Councilmember Guidry asked if sex trafficking victims are being detained. Subcommittee members discussed the different ways a victim might end up in detention. Sometimes, a victim could be arrested for a crime and be labeled as both a delinquent and a victim. However, it is important to remember the context in which "delinquent" behavior presents itself. Everyone working on these issues has good intentions, but the goal should always be to act in the best interest of the victim.

b. Presentation on Coordinated System of Care

Precious Lowe and Brittany Fried of NCFS presented on the Coordinated System of Care (CSoc) initiative and Wraparound model. CSoc creates a single point of entry for families of children at-risk of being in an out-of-home placement so that they can remain in their home and going to school. The initiative focuses on addressing identified barriers and causes with

wraparound services, using both formal and informal supports. The local office serves Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines, and St. Bernard Parishes and manages a caseload of 370. There is also a wait list.

Councilmember Guidry asked about the primary population served. NCFS answered that they start providing services at age five, issues can range from fighting or delinquency in school to alternatives to incarceration. Councilmember Guidry asked NCFS if they work with the Youth Study Center or OPJC. NCFS replied that they have worked with them in the past and are working to formalize the relationship through an MOU.

Aaron Clark-Rizzio asked how people get in to the program. NCFS answered that they receive clients through referrals. Anyone can make a referral, but parents must agree to participate. Aaron asked how the services are funded. NCFS replied that they are funded through Magellan, a Medicaid provider, so all clients must either have Medicaid or be Medicaid-eligible.

V. 1st Quarter Performance Measures

The Subcommittee reviewed the 1st Quarter Performance Measures (see presentation for further detail).

Councilmember Guidry asked if there was a comparison point from before Judge Dougherty took over EM in his court. In looking at the data, it appears that the total number of enrolled individuals has increased since Judge Dougherty took over in August 2017.

The Subcommittee discussed that the RAI scores for those placed on EM are not in accordance with the recommendations in the Policy and Procedures Manual. Many individuals with RAI scores below 14 are still being put on EM.

The Subcommittee discussed the possibility of a control group to determine what might happen if these individuals were released without EM. Ann Maier noted that it is very difficult to evaluate this. She also noted that the deceased are not counted in the data presented, but that this is part of the reality and it should be included.

Aaron Clark-Rizzio raised the issue that he has received reports of children on EM being ordered not to go to school. Jetaun Griffin responded that this was because the zone had not yet been set for the school.

Commissioner Johnson thanked Councilmember Guidry for her involvement and contributions, as this was her last meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:21pm.